

House Resolution 1951

By: Representatives Wilkinson of the 52nd and Lindsey of the 54th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Furman Bisher on the occasion of his 90th birthday; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Furman Bisher, the legendary sportswriter, will be honored at a grand tribute
4 on May 13, 2008, at the Cobb Galleria, and many of his fellow sports journalists will be in
5 attendance to honor him and his exemplary career; and

6 WHEREAS, he has diligently and conscientiously devoted innumerable hours of his time,
7 talents, and energy toward the betterment of his state as evidenced dramatically by his over
8 50 years of exemplary service as a sportswriter and editor at the Atlanta Journal-Constitution,
9 a *Sporting News* columnist, and a contributor of hundreds of articles for *Sports Illustrated*,
10 the *Saturday Evening Post*, and many other national magazines; and

11 WHEREAS, James Furman Bisher was born on November 4, 1918, in Denton, North
12 Carolina, to Mamie Morris and Chisholm Bisher, and after graduating from the University
13 of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he began his career at age 20 at the *Lumberton Voice* in
14 North Carolina in 1938, and from there he went on to the *High Point Enterprise* and the
15 *Charlotte News*, where he became the sports editor in 1948 following service as a United
16 States naval officer in the Pacific Theater during World War II; and

17 WHEREAS, he joined the *Atlanta Journal* and the *Sunday Journal-Constitution* in 1957, as
18 sports editor and columnist, and continues to write for them today; and

19 WHEREAS, he was president of the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association
20 from 1974 until 1976 and president of the Football Writers Association of America in 1959
21 through 1960 and, in 1961, *Time* magazine named him one of the nation's five best
22 columnists; and

1 WHEREAS, he holds seniority over the hundreds of golf reporters and other sports writers
2 who descend on Augusta, Georgia, each April for the Masters Tournament, and during the
3 2006 Masters Tournament, the Golf Channel profiled him as the "dean" of Masters'
4 journalists; and

5 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding accomplishments of this
6 distinguished Georgian be appropriately recognized.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
8 the members of this body commend Furman Bisher for his many decades of efficient,
9 effective, unselfish, and dedicated service to the citizens of this state, extend to him their
10 most sincere best wishes on the celebration of his 90th birthday, and wish him continued
11 health and happiness.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
13 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Furman Bisher.